

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1450 without my signature.

While I recognize some merit to the intent of this bill, it contains several provisions that are of significant concern. For instance, it deletes the current requirement that the increase in pupil capacity on the site will be maximized by the multi-story replacement building. As such, the bill would create a building replacement program whereas a district could qualify for funding to replace a possibly adequate facility with a brand new building, but only have to demonstrate housing one additional pupil, for example. Current regulations require that in order to qualify for grant funding, pupil capacity of the school needs to be increased by at least 20 percent of the existing permanent building capacity, or 200 additional students, whichever is greater.

Furthermore, this bill does not contain language specifying the possible future use or disposal of land that the State may have helped the district acquire, but that may be unused if the district decides to replace a demolished building at another site. Clearly, this measure needs further refinement and could be discussed within the context of a future education bond negotiation.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger